

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT TACOMA

In re: Tiffany Recinos

CASE NO. 3:23-mc-5021-BHS

VEXATIOUS LITIGANT BAR ORDER

THIS MATTER is before the Court on its own motion. On December 1, 2023, the Court notified pro se litigant Tiffany Recinos of its intent to enter a Bar Order finding her to be a serial, vexatious litigant, precluding her from continuing to inundate this District with frivolous, repetitive, and abusive lawsuits. A copy of the Court's Order was filed in each of the 37 cases Recinos had at that time filed in this District, this year. A copy is attached to this Order as Appendix A.

Recinos filed a Response the same day, stating she was *not* a vexatious litigant, and claiming that someone "stole" her class action settlement without her knowledge. *See Recinos v. Washington State Insurance Comm'r*, Cause No. 23-cv-5097 BHS, at Dkt.

1 281. Since then, Recinos has filed six additional cases, five¹ of which have been
2 dismissed as facially without merit. Recinos has not shown cause why a Bar Order should
3 not be entered. She has instead demonstrated why such an Order is not only warranted,
4 but required.

5 For the reasons articulated in the Court's prior Order, and based on Recinos's
6 actions since that time, the Court ORDERS:

- 7 1) Pro se litigant Tiffany Recinos is prohibited from filing any pro se civil action in
8 the Western District of Washington unless the complaint or petition is
9 accompanied by an affidavit signed under penalty of perjury attesting and
10 demonstrating that the complaint contains new allegations not previously litigated.
11 Recinos may not proceed *in forma pauperis* in civil action without a showing that
12 she is in imminent danger of serious bodily injury or death. Any proposed
13 complaint or petition not accompanied by such an affidavit or a showing of
14 imminent danger will not be filed. This is true whether Recinos pays a filing fee,
15 or not.
- 16 2) The Clerk will initially file any of Recinos's future pro se complaints and/or *in*
17 *forma pauperis* applications in this miscellaneous case. The Court will screen any
18 claim Recinos seeks to commence to determine whether it shall be filed.

19
20 ¹ One of Recinos's cases arguably suggested a viable IDEA or Rehabilitation Act claim,
21 and the Court has provided her an opportunity to amend her complaint in that case. *See Recinos*
22 *v. Washington*, Cause No. 23-cv-6069 BHS, at Dkt. 7. Recinos filed a frivolous motion for
default in that case, Dkt. 8, but has yet to file an amended complaint. She has not paid the filing
fee or been granted leave to proceed *in forma pauperis*. The remainder of Recinos's cases have
been dismissed.

- 1 3) The Clerk will not issue summonses in any pro se action Recinos attempts to file
- 2 in this District without prior approval of the Court.
- 3 4) The Court may dismiss any future pro se complaint, and deny any motions for *in*
- 4 *forma pauperis* status, upon a finding that the complaint suffers from the same
- 5 defects outlined above, or is otherwise without merit, without issuing an order to
- 6 show cause or permitting Recinos to file an amended complaint.
- 7 5) This pre-filing screening will not apply to any filing made in this District where
- 8 Recinos is represented by counsel. Any such complaint accompanied by a filing
- 9 fee may immediately receive a civil number. The Court will nevertheless *sua*
- 10 *sponte* dismiss any such filing that is facially frivolous.
- 11 6) The Clerk shall file this Bar Order in each of the cases Recinos has filed in this
- 12 District this year.

13 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

14 Dated this 19th day of December, 2023.

15 

16
17 BENJAMIN H. SETTLE
United States District Judge

Appendix A

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT TACOMA

TIFFANY RECINOS

Plaintiff,

v.

WASHINGTON STATE INSURANCE
COMMISSIONER

Defendant.

CASE NO. C23-5097 BHS

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER
BAR ORDER

THIS MATTER is before the Court on its own motion. Pro se plaintiff Tiffany Recinos has filed 36 civil cases in this District since February 2023. Twenty-five of the cases have already been dismissed as duplicative, frivolous, or otherwise without merit. The 11 remaining cases are Recinos's most recent filings, and they appear to be similarly deficient as a matter of law. Each will be addressed in a separate order.

In the meantime, for the reasons discussed below, this Order informs Recinos of the Court's intention to enter an Order barring her from commencing similar vexatious litigation in this District.

I. PROCEDURAL HISTORY

This is a brief overview of each of the 25 cases Recinos has filed in this District this year that have been dismissed for failure to state a plausible claim:

1. ***Recinos v. Washington State Insurance Commissioner, et al.***, Cause No. 23-cv-5097 BHS, filed February 6, 2023. Recinos sued Washington Insurance Commissioner Mike Kreidler and her home insurer (Nationwide) following water damage to her home. Though her claims against the Commissioner were dismissed in March, Dkt. 90, Recinos steadily filed various motions, requests, notices, reports, affidavits, amendments, petitions, and other nonsensical and improper documents related to her claims against Commissioner Kreidler (and other non-parties). She made no effort to serve or otherwise pursue her claims against her insurer. The case was dismissed for failure to prosecute and to otherwise comply with Court Orders in September 2023. Dkt. 223.

2. ***Recinos v. Washington State Insurance Commissioner, et al.***, Cause No. 23-cv-5098 DGE, also filed February 6, 2023, asserting the same claims and making the same accusations against the same parties. Dkt. 1 in Cause No. 23-cv-5098 DGE. Four days—and one petition for writ of certiorari, one motion for review by the attorney general, one motion to dismiss removal, one proposed motion for a preliminary injunction, and one “unopposed motion for a bill of particulars”²—later, Chief Judge David Estudillo unremarkably dismissed this case without prejudice, as duplicative of the

² Dkts. 8, 9, 10, 13, and 14, respectively.

1 case above. Dkt. 16. Recinos nevertheless continued to file a barrage of motions, reports,
2 affidavits, notices, and other documents over the next nine months. The United States
3 Supreme Court unsurprisingly denied her petition for writ of certiorari in October, Dkt.
4 118, and on November 17, Recinos filed an untimely and improper notice of appeal to the
5 Ninth Circuit. Dkt. 120.

6 3. ***Recinos v. Maxim Healthcare Services, Inc., et al.***, Cause No. 23-cv-5154
7 DGE, filed February 27, 2023. Recinos asserted that she was fired from her job as a nurse
8 for refusing to get a COVID-19 vaccine. Chief Judge Estudillo adopted Magistrate Judge
9 David Christel’s Report and Recommendation (R&R), denied Recinos’s application to
10 proceed *in forma pauperis*, and dismissed the case without prejudice and without leave to
11 amend, for failure to state a plausible claim. Dkts. 9, 13, and 14. The Ninth Circuit
12 dismissed her appeal for lack of jurisdiction. Dkt. 23. Recinos’s appeal to the United
13 States Supreme Court is apparently pending. Dkt. 24.

14 4. ***Recinos v. Concerto Health Care***, Cause No. 23-cv-5155 RJB, filed
15 February 27, 2023. Recinos asserted she was “screamed at” and fired for no reason.
16 Judge Robert Bryan adopted Magistrate Judge Christel’s R&R, denied Recinos’s
17 application to proceed *in forma pauperis*, and dismissed the case without prejudice and
18 without leave to amend. Dkts. 9, 13, and 14. The Ninth Circuit dismissed Recinos’s
19 appeal in October. Dkt. 27. Recinos filed an additional notice of appeal on November 20,
20 2023. Dkt. 31.

21 5. ***Recinos v. Commissioner of Social Security***, Cause No. 23-cv-5183 TLF,
22 filed March 7, 2023. Recinos asserted, without any factual support, that the Social

1 Security Administration “denied her claim” for benefits. Dkt. 1-1. She was ordered to
2 show cause by March 28 why her application to proceed *in forma pauperis* should not be
3 denied. Dkt. 4 Recinos filed seven frivolous motions before she responded to the Court’s
4 Order, on March 31. Dkts. 16, 25, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31 and 33. Magistrate Judge Theresa
5 Fricke³ granted the defendant’s motion to dismiss, Dkt. 59, in June. Dkts. 118 and 119.
6 Recinos continued to file motions for various relief, many of which were wholly
7 unrelated to her claims against the defendant. Dkts. 120, 122, 125, 127, 129, 131, 134,
8 136, 138, 141, 142, 145, 150, 1512, 155, 169, 163, 165, 169, 174. Recinos also attempted
9 to appeal the case several times. Dkts. 200, 204, 205, 207, 213. The Ninth Circuit
10 dismissed her appeal on October 27, 2023. Dkt. 214. Recinos continued to file motions
11 and notices of appeal until November 17, 2023. Dkt. 224. The case remains closed.

12 6. ***Recinos v. State of Washington, et al.***, Cause No. 23-cv-5433 RSM, filed
13 May 11, 2023. Recinos sought \$3.25 million because the state “conspired against the
14 plaintiff to steal child support, SSA allotments, back payments and all other hidden
15 funding that has been suppressed.” Dkt. 1-2 at 3. Magistrate Judge Christel ordered
16 Recinos to show cause why the case should not be dismissed as duplicative of the case
17 immediately above. Dkt. 4. In response, Recinos filed her own motion to show cause.
18 Dkt. 5. In June, Judge Ricardo Martinez dismissed the case based on Recinos’s failure to
19 respond. Dkt. 8. In October, Recinos filed an untimely notice of appeal. Dkt. 9.

22 ³ The parties consented to have the case heard by a Magistrate Judge. Dkt. 26.

1 7. ***Recinos v. Board of Industrial Insurance Appeals and Judge Timothy***
2 ***Wakenshaw***, Cause No. 23-cv-5473 RSM, filed May 24, 2023. Recinos alleges Concerto
3 and Maxim fired her because she was disabled and a medical liability, and Concerto
4 wanted to avoid L&I claims. Recinos sought \$3.25 million, and L&I benefits for the rest
5 of her life. She also asked for Judge Wakenshaw to be terminated. Dkt. 1-1. Judge
6 Martinez ordered Recinos to Show Cause why the court had jurisdiction and why her
7 complaint should not be dismissed as frivolous. Dkt. 14. Recinos responded, Dkt. 16, and
8 she also filed 21 additional motions, briefs, objections, exhibits, reports, and other
9 documents, before Judge Martinez dismissed the case as frivolous in June. Dkt. 36.
10 Recinos’s filings continued unabated. Among many other requests, Recinos sought
11 reconsideration, certiorari, and recusal, and informed the Court of her suspicions that all
12 the courts were engaged in criminal activity. Dkts. 37, 53, 59, and 64. Many of her filings
13 had nothing to do with her disability claim or her employment dispute. Judge Martinez
14 ordered her to stop filing in this closed case, Dkt. 58, and she did not. She attempted to
15 appeal the case to the Ninth Circuit in October and November. Dkts. 89, 90, 93, 96, 97,
16 and 99.

17 8. ***Recinos v. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission***, Cause No. 23-
18 cv-0791 MJP, filed May 26, 2023. Recinos sought \$3.25 million for “denying access to
19 resources to help victimized workers to leave their abusive employers[.]” Dkt. 5 at 3.
20 Over the next six weeks, Recinos filed some 30 motions, reports, amended complaints,
21 exhibits, expert witness disclosures, objections, and surreplies, before she moved for a
22 \$30 million default judgement against Judge Marsha Pechman, “to be paid DIRECTLY

TO PLAINTIFF AND NO ONE ELSE PRETENDING TO BE ME OR RELATED TO ME IN ANY WAY.” Dkt. 36 at 1 and Dkt. 37. On July 17, Judge Pechman dismissed the case without prejudice and with leave to file one more amended complaint stating a plausible claim. Dkt. 40. Recinos filed a similarly deficient amended complaint, Dkt. 50, along with 20 other motions, amendments, affidavits, reports, notices, and records. Judge Pechman dismissed the case with prejudice and denied Recinos’s pending motions as moot on August 21. Dkt. 61. Recinos continued her filings, and ultimately attempted to appeal on October 4. Dkt. 71.

9. ***Recinos v. Wakenshaw***, Cause No. 23-cv-5507 JNW, filed June 5, 2023. Recinos sought \$3.25 million, for damage done “by not correcting Labor and Industry and Workers Compensation dealings.” Dkt. 7 at 3. She moved to arraign Judge Wakenshaw, Dkt. 9; to inspect jurisdictional history, Dkt. 13; for certiorari, Dkt. 14; to enforce RCW Title 51, Dkt. 25; issued a “criminal activity alert,” Dkt. 27; sought lifetime vision coverage, Dkt. 34; and recusal, Dkt. 40. Judge Jamal Whitehead ordered her to show cause why the case should not be dismissed as frivolous. Dkt. 51. Recinos filed 15 motions, letters, complaints, and other documents, but did not respond to the Order. Judge Whitehead dismissed the case as frivolous in September, Dkt. 67, and Recinos appealed in October. Dkt. 71. Judge Whitehead revoked Recinos’s *in forma pauperis* status. Dkt. 78.

10. ***Recinos v. Kreidler***, Cause No. 23-cv-5508 RJB, filed June 5, 2023. Recinos sought \$3.25 million, this time from Insurance Commissioner Kreidler, because her “suffering was multiplied with procrastination.” Dkt. 1-1 at 3. She asserted that

1 Kreidler was vicariously liable for her home insurer's failure to pay her water damage
2 claim. Magistrate Judge Christel recommended that the Court dismiss the case as
3 duplicative of her claims in *Recinos v. Washington State Insurance Commissioner, et al.*,
4 Cause No. 23-cv-5097 BHS. Dkt. 4. In July, Judge Bryan adopted the R&R, denied leave
5 to proceed *in forma pauperis*, and dismissed the case without prejudice. Dkt. 5. In
6 October, Recinos appealed. Dkt. 9.

7 11. ***Recinos v. Recinos, et al.***, Cause No. 23-cv-5546 RJB, filed June 16, 2023.
8 Recinos sought \$3.25 billion from her former husband and various state entities because
9 her inheritance was stolen. Dkt. 1-1 at 5. Magistrate Judge Fricke ordered Recinos to
10 show cause why the case should not be dismissed as frivolous under 28 U.S.C. § 1915, or
11 to file an amended complaint. Dkt. 7. Judge Fricke recommended that the Court dismiss
12 the case, and Judge Bryan adopted her R&R in August. Dkt. 14. Recinos appealed in
13 October, Dkt. 16, and the Ninth Circuit dismissed her appeal as untimely. Dkt. 19.

14 12. ***Recinos v. State of Washington and City of Orting***, Cause No. 23-cv-5568
15 BHS, filed June 27, 2023. Recinos sued in this Court regarding a traffic ticket her son
16 received in Orting, asking the Court to remove the ticket from his record. Dkt. 1-1 at 3.
17 Magistrate Judge Grady Leupold recommended the Court dismiss the case for failure to
18 state a plausible claim. Dkt. 10. On September 14, this Court adopted the R&R, denied
19 Recinos's application to proceed *in forma pauperis*, and dismissed the case without
20 prejudice and without leave to amend. Dkts. 12 and 13. Recinos filed an untimely notice
21 of appeal on October 16. Dkt. 14.
22

1 13. ***Recinos v. Child Protective Services, et al.***, Cause No. 23-cv-5581 MJP,
2 filed June 29, 2023. Recinos claimed her “inheritance was stolen before my murder was
3 attempted” by her “ex-husband and her mom.” She sought \$3.25 million. She also
4 claimed her 4 minor children were kidnapped by CPS. Dkt. 5 at 5–6. Judge Pechman
5 dismissed the case without prejudice for failure to state a claim, but permitted Recinos an
6 opportunity to file an amended complaint. Dkt. 16. Recinos filed an amended complaint,
7 largely repeating and expanding on her prior allegations, and seeking \$3.25 million and a
8 monthly stipend to fund her pro se attorney work. Dkt. 17 at 2. Judge Pechman dismissed
9 the case with prejudice in August. Dkt. 22. After a wave of additional, nonsensical
10 filings—including, for example, a “REPORT Exempted Disclosure of LANDSLIDE by
11 Insurance Commissioner Mike Kreidler,” Dkt. 38—Recinos ultimately and untimely
12 appealed to the Ninth Circuit in October. Dkt. 45. She sent the Court a letter asking it to
13 consolidate all 25 of her cases into one appeal against the discriminating Insurance
14 Commissioner. Dkt. 46.

15 14. ***Recinos v. State of Washington, et al.***, Cause No. 23-cv-5592 BHS, filed
16 July 1, 2023. Recinos sued the state, several federal judges, CPS, Commissioner Kreidler,
17 and others, seeking \$3.25 million for “pain and suffering and all the pro se legal work
18 provided by the plaintiff fixing the State’s legal anomalies.” Dkt. 1-1 at 4. She also
19 complained again about her stolen inheritance and her disabilities. *Id.* at 5. Magistrate
20 Judge Leupold recommended the Court deny Recinos’s application to proceed *in forma*
21 *pauperis* and dismiss the case without prejudice and without leave to amend, for failure
22 to state a plausible claim. Dkt. 3. This Court adopted the R&R and dismissed the case on

1 September 6. Dkts. 4 and 5. Recinos filed an untimely notice of appeal on October 19.
2 Dkt. 6.

3 15. ***Recinos v. Mormon Church et al.***, Cause No. 23-cv-5601 RJB, filed July
4 7, 2023. Recinos alleged the Mormon Church violated her constitutional rights to life,
5 liberty, and happiness by “stealing her birthright inheritance/religion/family.” She again
6 sought \$3.25 million. Dkt. 1-1 at 5. Magistrate Judge Fricke ordered Recinos to show
7 cause why the case should not be dismissed for failure to state a plausible claim, or to file
8 an amended complaint. Dkt. 6. Recinos filed an amended complaint, which did not cure
9 the deficiencies. Dkt. 7. Judge Fricke recommended the Court deny Recinos’s application
10 to proceed *in forma pauperis* and dismiss the case without prejudice and without leave to
11 amend, for failure to state a plausible claim. Dkt. 8. Judge Bryan adopted the R&R and
12 dismissed the case September 18. Dkts. 10 and 11. Recinos filed an untimely notice of
13 appeal on November 16. Dkt. 12.

14 16. ***Recinos v. Health Commissioner of Washington State, et al.***, Cause No.
15 23-cv-5612 JHC, filed July 9, 2023. Recinos sued a variety of health care providers for
16 \$3.25 million, alleging they “excluded public disclosure to avoid liability of the actions
17 taken that harmed plaintiff causing medical anomalies that could have killed her.” Dkt. 1-
18 1 at 4. She also sought criminal arraignment of the providers for attempted murder. *Id.* at
19 5. Recinos filed 15 motions between August 3 and August 7. Dkts. 9, 10, 11, 12, 14, 15,
20 16, 17, 18, 19, 23, 24, 25, 26 and 27. Judge John Chun dismissed the case without
21 prejudice and with leave to amend on August 7. Recinos filed an amended complaint the
22 same day, Dkt. 31. She also filed a supplement, Dkt. 32, two more amended complaints,

Dkts. 34 and 35, a notice of suspected criminal activity, Dkt. 33, and various other motions, notices, letters, and records. Dkts. 36, 37, 38, 41. On August 14, Judge Chun struck those filings, and permitted Recinos a final chance to file a complaint stating a plausible claim. Dkt. 42. Recinos did so the same day. Dkt. 43. She also filed that day an affidavit, Dkt. 44, a motion for default judgment, Dkt. 45, and an amended motion for default judgment, Dkt. 46. Judge Chun just as quickly dismissed the case without prejudice and without leave to amend, on August 14. Dkts. 47 and 48. Recinos filed another wave of post-judgment motions and documents, Dkts. 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, and 55. On August 21, Judge Chun struck these filings as improper, and directed the clerk not to docket further filings in this closed case. Dkt. 56. Recinos filed 11 additional motions, reports, and notices, all of which were stricken. Recinos attempted to appeal to the Ninth Circuit on October 4. Dkt. 70. Her appeal was dismissed as untimely on October 28. Dkt. 75. Recinos attempted to appeal to the United States Supreme Court and attempted again to appeal to the Ninth Circuit. Dkts. 76, 77, 78, 80, 81, and 82. The Ninth Circuit issued its Mandate on November 20. Dkt. 83.

17. ***Recinos v. Chase Bank and Mike Kreidler***, Cause No. 23-cv-5643 BHS, filed July 18, 2023. Recinos requested “\$3.25 million USD for pain and suffering related to this oppression. CHASE BANK is EXEMPTING PUBLIC DISCLOSURE of an ILLEGAL LOAN placed into the plaintiff’s credit card account without her knowledge or consent. LOAN AMOUNT IS HIDDEN AND THEREFORE UNKNOWN.” She asserted that Kreidler “tried to place a secret loan on her property.” She also complains that the Mormon Church intervened to “keep it all quiet.” Dkt. 1-1 at 3–4. Magistrate

1 Judge Christel recommended the Court deny Recinos’s application to proceed *in forma*
2 *pauperis* and dismiss the case without prejudice and without leave to amend, for failure
3 to state a plausible claim. Dkt. 7. Recinos filed two additional motions, Dkts. 8 and 9, but
4 did not object to the R&R until September 20, two weeks after it was adopted. Dkt. 12.
5 This Court adopted the R&R and dismissed the case on September 7. Dkts. 10 and 11.
6 Recinos filed an untimely Notice of Appeal on October 19. Dkt. 14.

7 18. ***Recinos v. Employment Security Department and Maxim Healthcare,***
8 Cause No. 23-cv-5713 DGE, filed August 9, 2023. Recinos sought \$3.25 million for
9 “fraudulent dealings and pretending I am employed at Maxim when they fired me in
10 October 2021, yet still not giving me unemployment.” Dkt. 1-1 at 3. Magistrate Judge
11 Leupold recommended the Court deny Recinos’s application to proceed *in forma*
12 *pauperis* and dismiss the case without prejudice and without leave to amend, for failure
13 to state a plausible claim. Dkt. 12. Recinos appealed to the Ninth Circuit on October 16.
14 Dkt. 16. Judge Estudillo adopted the R&R and dismissed the case for failure to state a
15 claim on October 17. Dkts. 14 and 15. The Ninth Circuit dismissed Recinos’s appeal on
16 November 17. Dkt. 19.

17 19. ***Recinos v. City of Tacoma, et al.,*** Cause No. 23-cv-5754 DGE, filed
18 August 22, 2023. Recinos sought *in forma pauperis* status to file a complaint asking the
19 City to ensure that her ex-husband, Juan Recinos, had no interest in property left to her by
20 her grandparents. She also sought the removal of a “sewer lien” on the property. Dkt. 1-1
21 at 3–4. Magistrate Judge Fricke recommended the Court deny *in forma pauperis* status
22 and dismiss the complaint without prejudice and without leave to amend, for failure to

1 state a plausible claim. Judge Estudillo adopted the R&R and dismissed the case on
2 October 17. Dkts. 10 and 11. Recinos appealed the next day. Dkt. 12. Her seemingly
3 unnecessary motion for an extension of time to file a notice of appeal is pending. Dkt. 14.

4 20. ***Recinos v. Washington State Nursing Commission, et al.***, Cause No. 23-
5 cv-5762 DGE, filed August 24, 2023. Recinos sued the state Nursing Commission and
6 various individuals for \$3.25 million, for “stealing my lifetime career and happiness as a
7 Registered Nurse.” Dkt. 1-1 at 3. She apparently contends she lost her nursing credential
8 in 2010. *Id.* at 4. On September 15, Magistrate Judge Christel recommended the Court
9 deny Recinos’s application to proceed *in forma pauperis* and dismiss the case without
10 prejudice and without leave to amend, for failure to state a plausible claim. Dkt. 3. On
11 October 16, Recinos appealed to the Ninth Circuit, Dkt. 7. On October 17, Judge
12 Estudillo adopted the R&R and dismissed the case. Dkt. 5 and 6. The Ninth Circuit
13 dismissed Recinos’s appeal on November 17. Dkt. 10.

14 21. ***Recinos v. City of Orting, et al.***, Cause No. 23-5772 RJB, filed August 26,
15 2023. Recinos sought “\$3.25 million USD in pain and suffering and SANCTIONS TO
16 ALL WHO DID NOT RESPOND TO THESE EMERGENT ISSUES.” Dkt. 1-1 at 3. The
17 emergent issues apparently involve a natural gas leak and a problem with her septic
18 system. She also asked that defendants “fix gas leaks septic plumbing and everything else
19 that was hidden in documented home insurance inspections with the EXEMPTION OF
20 PUBLIC DISCLOSURE.” *Id.* at 4. Magistrate Judge Leupold recommended the Court
21 deny Recinos’s application to proceed *in forma pauperis* and dismiss the case without
22 prejudice and without leave to amend, for failure to state a plausible claim. Dkt. 4. Judge

1 Bryan adopted the R&R and dismissed the case on October 12. Dkt. 6 and 7. Recinos
2 appealed to the Ninth Circuit four days later. Dkt. 8.

3 22. ***Recinos v. Butte Homeowners Association, et al.***, Cause No. 23-cv-5780
4 LK, filed August 29, 2023. Recinos sought “\$3.25 million USD for procrastinating the
5 repair of major home damages creating worsening conditions for the entire community.”
6 Dkt. 1-1 at 3. She alleged that various damage to her home required repairs, and
7 apparently contended that the Homeowners Association was responsible for the damages
8 or the repairs, or both. On September 15, Judge Lauren King ordered Recinos to show
9 cause why the Court had subject matter jurisdiction over the dispute. Recinos filed a
10 variety of documents, including a motion for summary judgment, but did not address the
11 Court’s inquiry. Judge King dismissed the case without prejudice and without leave to
12 amend on September 20. Dkts. 21 and 22. Recinos appealed October 4. Dkt. 30.

13 23. ***Recinos v. Kreidler, et al.***, Cause No. 23-cv-5791 DGE, filed September 2,
14 2023. Recinos asserted that she was injured while working for MultiCare but never
15 received L&I benefits. She sought \$3.25 million. She also alleged that MultiCare
16 committed medical malpractice in treating her and her son. Dkt. 1-1 at 4–5. Magistrate
17 Judge Christel recommended the Court deny Recinos’s application to proceed *in forma*
18 *pauperis* and dismiss the case without prejudice and without leave to amend, for failure
19 to state a plausible claim. Dkt. 4. On October 16, Recinos appealed. Dkt. 8. On October
20 17, Judge Estudillo adopted the R&R and dismissed the case. Dkts. 6 and 7. The Ninth
21 Circuit dismissed Recinos’s appeal on November 20.
22

1 24. ***Recinos v. Recinos, et al.***, Cause No. 23-cv-5792 DGE, filed September 2,
2 2023. Recinos again sued her ex-husband, alleging he violated her right to life when he
3 attempted to murder⁴ her in 2010. Dkt. 1-1 at 4. She asked the Court to send him to
4 prison. She named, but did plead any facts supporting any claims against, additional
5 defendants, including, again, Insurance Commissioner Kreidler. Magistrate Judge
6 Leupold recommended the Court deny Recinos's application to proceed *in forma*
7 *pauperis* and dismiss the case without prejudice and without leave to amend, for failure
8 to state a plausible claim. Judge Estudillo adopted the R&R and dismissed the case on
9 October 3. Dkts. 4 and 5. Recinos appealed on October 18. Dkt. 6.

10 25. ***Recinos v. Vision Quest Chiropractic, et al.***, Cause No. 23-cv-5852 BHS,
11 filed September 20, 2023. Recinos sought \$3.25 million from Vision Quest Chiropractic
12 for violating her constitutional rights. Dkt. 4-1 at 4–5. She apparently disputes a lien on
13 something, but she does not identify the lien, what it is attached to, or Vision Quest's
14 connection to it. On October 16, before her applications to proceed *in forma pauperis*,
15 Dkts. 1 and 4, were even decided, Recinos filed a Notice of Appeal. Dkt. 5. On October
16 23, Magistrate Judge Leupold recommended the Court deny Recinos's application to
17 proceed *in forma pauperis* and dismiss the case without prejudice and without leave to
18 amend, for failure to state a plausible claim. Dkt. 6. This Court adopted the R&R and
19 dismissed the case on November 6. Dkts. 8 and 9. The Ninth Circuit dismissed Recinos's
20 appeal on November 16. Dkt. 12.

21
22 ⁴ This allegation is apparently true.

Recinos has also filed eleven new, but sometimes repetitive and similarly frivolous cases, since October 15. The new cases (as of this writing) are:

- ***Recinos v. UPS Store #3502, et al.***, Cause No. 23-cv-5948 BHS, filed October 15, 2023.
- ***Recinos v. St Joseph Medical Center, et al.***, Cause No. 23-cv-6006 BHS, filed November 3, 2023.
- ***Recinos v. Moreau, et al.***, Cause No. 23-cv-6019 BHS, filed November 8, 2023.
- ***Recinos v. Winship, et al.***, Cause No. 23-cv-6020 BHS, filed November 8, 2023.
- ***Recinos v. Discount Tire, et al.***, Cause No. 23-cv-6033 BHS, filed November 10, 2023.
- ***Recinos v. State of Washington***, Cause No. 23-cv-6060 BHS, filed November 20, 2023.
- ***Recinos v. State of Washington, et al.***, Cause No. 23-cv-6069 DGE, filed November 27, 2023.
- ***Recinos v. Perce County Risk Management, et al.***, Cause No. 23-cv-6080 BHS, filed November 27, 2023.
- ***Recinos v. State of Washington, et al.***, Cause No. 23-cv-6081 DGE, filed November 27, 2023.

- 1 • *Recinos v. Washington State, et al.*, Cause No. 23-cv-6086 DGE, filed
2 November 28, 2023.
- 3 • *Recinos v. Dr. Gessell Orthodontics, et al.*, Cause No. 23-cv-6087 DGE, filed
4 November 28, 2023.

5 The procedural and substantive merit of each of these cases will be addressed in
6 separate orders. In the meantime, however, based on the volume of baseless filings
7 Recinos has already made in this Court over the past nine months, this Order is **NOTICE**
8 to Recinos of the Court’s intention to enter an Order barring her from filing any
9 additional pro se cases in this District. Recinos may respond to this Order, and **SHOW**
10 **CAUSE** in writing why such a Bar Order should not be entered, within **21 days**.

11 II. DISCUSSION

12 District courts have the inherent power to enter pre-filing orders against vexatious
13 litigants under The All Writs Acts, 28 U.S.C. § 1651(a). *Molski v. Evergreen Dynasty*
14 *Corp.*, 500 F.3d 1047, 1057 (9th Cir. 2007) (“Under the power of 28 U.S.C. § 1651(a),
15 enjoining litigants with abusive and lengthy histories is one such form of restriction that
16 the district court may take.”). Although such orders should be used sparingly, “[f]lagrant
17 abuse of the judicial process cannot be tolerated because it enables one person to preempt
18 the use of judicial time that properly could be used to consider the meritorious claims of
19 other litigants.” *De Long v. Hennessey*, 912 F.2d 1144, 1148 (9th Cir. 1990).

20 In the Ninth Circuit, a vexatious litigant order may be entered when (1) the litigant
21 has received notice and a chance to be heard before the order is entered, (2) there is an
22 adequate record for review, (3) the litigant’s actions are frivolous or harassing, and (4)

1 the vexatious litigant order is “narrowly tailored to closely fit the specific vice
2 encountered.” *De Long*, 912 F.2d at 1147-48; *Molski*, 500 F.3d at 1057.

3 The first two factors are procedural, while the “latter two factors . . . are
4 substantive considerations . . . [that] help the district court define who is, in fact, a
5 ‘vexatious litigant’ and construct a remedy that will stop the litigant’s abusive behavior
6 while not unduly infringing the litigant’s right to access the courts.” *Molski*, 500 F.3d at
7 1058.

8 **A. Notice and Opportunity to be Heard.**

9 The first factor requires that an individual has fair notice of the possibility that
10 they may be declared a vexatious litigant, and further, that they be given an opportunity
11 to oppose the order before it is entered. *Id.* at 1147, 1058. This does not require the court
12 to hold an in-person hearing, as “the opportunity to brief the issue fully satisfies due
13 process requirements.” *Reddy v. MedQuist, Inc.*, No. 12-cv-1324-PSG, 2012 WL
14 6020010, at *3 (N.D. Cal. Dec. 3, 2012) (quoting *Molski*, 500 F.3d at 1058); *see Gavin v.*
15 *City & Cty. of S.F.*, No. 15-CV-05202-EMC, 2016 WL 126937, at *2 (N.D. Cal. Jan. 12,
16 2016) (holding opportunity to file a written opposition satisfies first *De Long* factor;
17 collecting cases). This Order is notice to Recinos that the Court intends to enter a bar
18 Order, and it provides her an opportunity to submit a written response before a pre-filing
19 Order is potentially entered against her.

20 **B. Adequate Record for Review.**

21 An adequate record for review should include a listing of all the cases and motions
22 that lead the district court to conclude that a vexatious litigant order is needed. *De Long*,

1 912 F.2d at 1147 (*citing Martin–Trigona v. Lavien*, 737 F.2d 1254, 1260 (2d Cir. 1984)).

2 At a minimum, the record should show that the litigant’s activities are numerous or
3 abusive. *De Long*, 912 F.2d at 1147.

4 The Court has described above each of Recinos’s first 25 cases, their procedural
5 history, and Recinos’s relentless filing of improper, incomprehensible, and irrelevant
6 motions and other documents, her failure to follow the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure,
7 and her refusal or inability to comply with express court Orders. The Court has outlined
8 the consistent dismissal of her meritless and repetitive complaints for failure to state a
9 plausible claim. This Court will address the merits of each of Recinos’s eleven newly-
10 filed cases in each such case.

11 But even without addressing the merits of this new wave of cases, Recinos has
12 already amply demonstrated that she is an abusive, harassing, vexatious litigant. She has
13 filed ten new cases this month, many of which are asserted against a defendant she has
14 sued before.

15 **C. Frivolous or Harassing Filings.**

16 The third *De Long* factor “gets to the heart of the vexatious litigant analysis,” *see*
17 *Molski*, 500 F.3d at 1059, and requires the district court to look to “both the number and
18 content of the filings as indicia” of the frivolousness of the litigant’s claims, *De Long*,
19 912 F.2d at 1148. “An injunction cannot issue merely upon a showing of litigiousness.
20 The plaintiff’s claims must not only be numerous, but also be patently without merit.”
21 *Molski*, 500 F.3d at 1059.
22

1 Because this factor requires substantive consideration, courts look toward a
2 separate set of considerations that provide a “helpful framework”:

3 (1) the litigant’s history of litigation, and in particular whether it entailed
4 vexatious, harassing, or duplicative lawsuits; (2) the litigant’s motive in
5 pursuing the litigation, in other words, whether the litigant has an objective
6 good faith expectation of prevailing; (3) whether the litigant is represented
7 by counsel; (4) whether the litigant has caused needless expense to other
8 parties or has posed an unnecessary burden on the courts and their
9 personnel; and (5) whether other sanctions would be adequate to protect the
10 courts and other parties.

11 *Id.* at 1058. These five substantive factors help determine whether a party is a vexatious
12 litigant and, if so, the sanction that is required to stop the vexatious litigation. *Id.* (citing
13 *Safir v. U.S. Lines, Inc.*, 792 F.2d 19, 24 (2nd Cir. 1986)). The final consideration—
14 whether other remedies would be adequate to protect the courts and other parties—is
15 particularly important. *Ringgold Lockhart v. Cnty. of Los Angeles*, 761 F.3d 1062 (9th
16 Cir. 2014).

17 Recinos’s previous filings demonstrate that she is a vexatious litigant. First,
18 Recinos has filed 36 actions in nine months, and every one that has been addressed
19 substantively has been dismissed for failure to state a plausible claim. *See Johns v. Los*
20 *Gatos*, 834 F. Supp. 1230, 1232 (N.D. Cal. 1993) (entering vexatious litigant order
21 against a plaintiff who had filed five similar actions over a period of ten years). Second,
22 Recinos has identified no viable legal theory in support of any of her numerous claims,
despite the massive volume of filings she has offered in support of her claims and
grievances. Recinos has yet to articulate any plausible claim against anyone.

1 Recinos has sought to bring these claims (and her inevitable appeals of orders
2 dismissing them as lacking legal or factual merit) *in forma pauperis*, using the Court's
3 limited resources to air all her grievances against anyone. Recinos does not appear to
4 have ever served any defendant, so her filings have not wasted her opponents' time. But
5 the sheer volume of frivolous filings has placed a severely unreasonable burden on this
6 District. The third and fourth factors weigh heavily in favor of a bar order.

7 Finally, other sanctions, including monetary fines, would be overly punitive and
8 ineffectual. One consistent feature of all her claims is that Recinos has no assets. A fine
9 would not and could not dissuade Recinos from continued filings; she could not pay it in
10 any event. Her *in forma pauperis* applications and her other filings have shown that she
11 does not have the ability to pay for even one of these cases, or even one of her appeals.

12 Recinos has been filing an average of about three lawsuits a month. She files
13 something in at least one of her cases almost every single day. All her filings are
14 frivolous or fantastical, legally unsupportable, and without legal or factual merit as a
15 matter of law. None have even been served. Her filings, both the number of cases and the
16 absurd amount of motions and other submittals, have imposed a substantial and
17 unreasonable cost on this District. The Court cannot, and is not required to, continue to
18 entertain such nonsensical and unproductive filings.

19 **D. Narrowly Tailored.**

20 The final factor requires that a pre-filing order be narrowly tailored to the
21 vexatious litigant's wrongful behavior. *Molski*, 500 F.3d at 1061. "Narrowly tailored
22 orders are needed 'to prevent infringement of the litigator's right of access to the

1 courts.”’ *De Long*, 912 F.2d at 1148 (*citing Sires v. Gabriel*, 748 F.2d 49, 51 (1st Cir.

2 1984)). The pre-filing restriction must fit the plaintiff’s specific practices. *See, e.g., Wood*

3 *v. Santa Barbara Chamber of Com., Inc.*, 705 F.2d 1515, 1525 (9th Cir. 1983) (the

4 injunction must describe in reasonable detail the act or acts sought to be restrained).

5 Recinos has brought three dozen facially meritless lawsuits in this District, this

6 year. The specific vice the Court seeks to address and remedy is the serial filing of

7 facially frivolous or fantastical lawsuits, and the even more burdensome filing of a

8 constant barrage of wholly improper, baseless motions and other papers, by a *pro se*

9 litigant.

10 ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE

11 Based on these findings and a thorough review of the record, the Court **ORDERS**

12 Plaintiff Recinos to **SHOW CAUSE** in writing why the Court should not issue a Bar

13 Order finding Recinos to be vexatious litigant, and ending her ability to file additional

14 such cases pro se in this District. Such a Bar Order specifically would include the

15 following restrictions:

- 16 7) Recinos is prohibited from filing any pro se civil action in the Western District of
- 17 Washington unless the complaint or petition is accompanied by an affidavit signed
- 18 under penalty of perjury attesting and demonstrating that the complaint contains
- 19 new allegations not previously litigated. Recinos may not proceed *in forma*
- 20 *pauperis* in civil action without a showing that she is in imminent danger of
- 21 serious bodily injury or death. Any proposed complaint or petition not
- 22

1 accompanied such an affidavit or a showing imminent danger will not be filed.

2 This is true whether Recinos pays a filing fee, or not.

3 8) The Clerk will initially file any of Recinos's future *pro se* complaints and/or *in*
4 *forma pauperis* applications in a miscellaneous case specifically designated for
5 this purpose. The Clerk shall open a miscellaneous case, *In re Tiffany Recinos*, for
6 this purpose, and shall file this Order in that new miscellaneous case. The Court
7 will screen each proposed filing to determine whether it shall be filed.

8 9) The Clerk will not issue summonses in any *pro se* action Recinos attempts to file
9 in this District without prior approval of the Court.

10 10) The Court may dismiss any future *pro se* complaint, and deny any motions for *in*
11 *forma pauperis* status, upon a finding that the complaint suffers from the same
12 defects outlined above, or is otherwise without merit, without issuing an order to
13 show cause or permitting Recinos to file an amended complaint.

14 11) This pre-filing screening will not apply to any filing made in this District where
15 Recinos is represented by counsel. Any such complaint accompanied by a filing
16 fee may immediately receive a civil number. The Court will nevertheless *sua*
17 *sponte* dismiss any such filing that is facially frivolous.

18 The Clerk shall file this Notice of Intent to Enter a Bar Order in each of the 36
19 cases Recinos has filed in this District this year.

20 Plaintiff Recinos's Response to this Order is due **no later than 21 days** from the
21 date of this Order and may not exceed 12 pages. She may file it in this case or any other,
22 but she need not file it in each case. No motions, attachments, exhibits, statements, or

1 supporting documentation will be considered. If Recinos continues with the sorts of
2 filings she has made so far, the Court will enter the Bar Order restricting her ability to
3 file any pro se cases in this District. The failure to file a response will also result in the
4 issuance of a Bar Order.

5 **IT IS SO ORDERED.**

6 Dated this 1st day of December, 2023.

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9 BENJAMIN H. SETTLE
10 United States District Judge
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